

# CONTRAST UNITS AND ENDOGRAPHIC METHODS

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УНИВЕРЗИТЕТ  
У КРАГУЈЕВЦУ



# Objectives

- ▶ Introduction to the contrast media used during radiological examinations,
- ▶ Introduction to endographic methods in radiology
- ▶ Acquaintance with side effects and measures of prevention and treatment of side effects of contrast agents,

# Contrast media

- ▶ Defines subtle differences in subject contrast
- ▶ Increases atomic number of area injected
- ▶ Results in a SHORTER scale of subject contrast

# Subject Contrast



- ▶ Range of differences in the intensity of the x-ray beam, after it has been attenuated by the subject (patient).
- ▶ For LOW CONTRAST structures:
- ▶ What can be done to attain medical information- see the difference between muscle, organs or vessels
- ▶ Define and outline – organ structure and function
- ▶ **CONTRAST MEDIA** used to:
- ▶ **enhance** subject contrast or render high subject contrast in a tissue that normally has low subject contrast

# Why use contrast media

- Where considerable difference between the densities of two organs exists then the outlines of the structures can be visualised on a radiograph due to natural contrast.

Similarly, if there is a difference between the average atomic numbers of two tissues, then the outlines of the different structures can be seen by natural contrast.

- However, if the two organs have similar densities and similar average atomic numbers, then it is not possible to distinguish them on a radiograph, because no natural contrast exists.

This situation commonly occurs - it is not possible to identify blood vessels within an organ, or to demonstrate the internal structure of the kidney, without artificially altering one of the factors mentioned earlier.

# Types of CM based on the machine

- ▶ Radiographic (Iodine based, Barium sulfate, Thorium dioxide – past)
- ▶ MR ( Gadolinium )
- ▶ Ultrasound (CEUS – Contrast –enhanced ultrasound – microbubbles )

# Contrast Media

- ▶ **Negative contrast**

- ▶ (AIR OR CO<sub>2</sub>)

- ▶ Radiolucent

- ▶ Low atomic # material

- ▶ Black on film

- ▶ **Positive contrast**

- ▶ (all others)

- ▶ Radiopaque

- ▶ High atomic # material

- ▶ White on film

# Types of Contrast Media

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- ▶ Radiolucent-
- ▶ negative contrast agent
- ▶ x-rays easily penetrate
- ▶ areas- appear \_\_\_\_\_ on films

## Negative Contrast Media

- ▶ **Air and gas**
- ▶ **complications**
- ▶ **emboli-air pockets in vessels**
- ▶ **lack of oxygen**

- ▶ Radiopaque-
- ▶ positive contrast agent-
- ▶ absorbs x-rays
- ▶ areas- appear \_\_\_\_\_ on films

## Positive Contrast Agents

- ▶ BARIUM
- ▶ IODINES

Both + & - can be used in same study

## 2 BASIC TYPES OF CONTRAST material

- ▶ BARUIM Z# 56
- ▶ NON WATER SOLUABLE
- ▶ GI TRACT ONLY  
INGESTED OR  
RECTALLY
- ▶ KVP 90 – 120\*
- ▶ IODINE Z# 53
- ▶ WATER SOLUABLE
- ▶ POWDER
- ▶ LIQUID
- ▶ INTRAVENOUS OR
- ▶ *Intrathecal*
- ▶ GI TRACT
- ▶ Also OIL based
- ▶ KVP BELOW 90\*

# Radiological Contrast media

- Iodine - provides radio-opacity  
(discovered treating syphilis in the 1920's with sodium iodide)
- Other elements of RCM molecule = carrier
  - ↓ toxicity, ↑ solubility of iodine, non-radioopaque
- All IV RCM
  - Benzene ring
  - 3 atoms of iodine at C 2,4,6 positions
- Classification
  - Ionic or non-ionic
  - High or Low osmolar
  - Monomeric or Dimeric

# Osmolality

- Dependent solely on number of dissociated particles (not number of molecules).
- The closer the osmolality of RCM to that of plasma the better the tolerance.
- Osmolality is directly responsible for a number of clinically important effects. The sensations of heat and discomfort or even pain from contrast media are directly related to the osmolality.

# Viscosity

- Resistance of a liquid to various forces (and hence to flow)
- Related to concentration of the Iodine in a contrast medium
- Inversely related to temperature
- Not related to pressure

# Radiological Contrast Media

## ▶ 4 types RCM

- ▶ Ionic monomer = high osmolar
- ▶ Ionic dimer = low osmolar
- ▶ Non-ionic monomer = low osmolar
- ▶ Non-ionic dimer = iso-osmolar

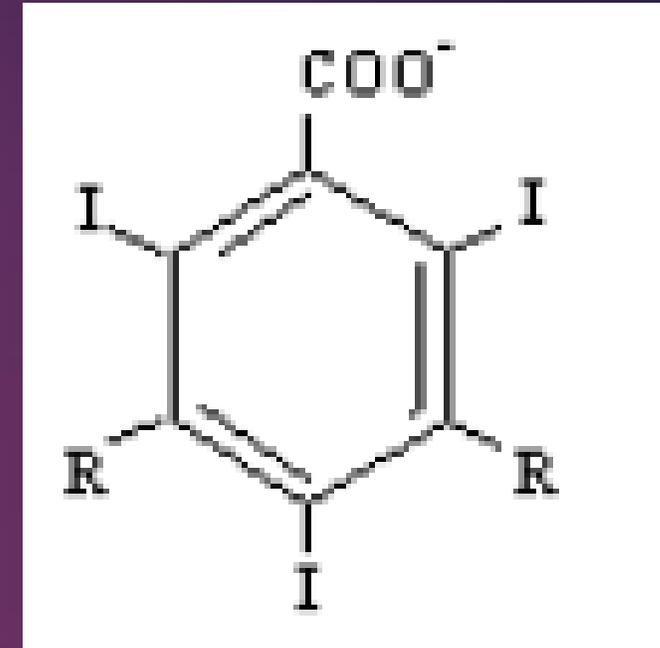
## ▶ Distribution

- ▶ Hydrophilic
- ▶ Capillary permeability throughout extracellular compartment.
- ▶ Filtered unchanged in glomerulus.

## ▶ Excreted - 90% by glomerular filtration in 12 hrs

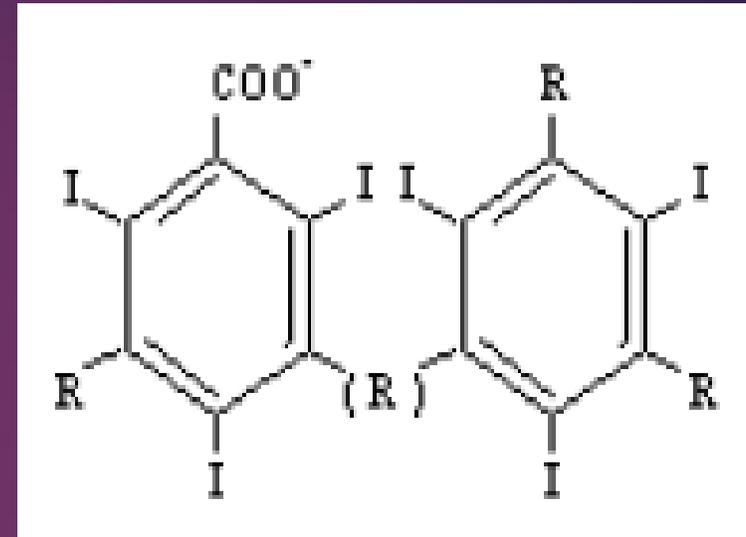
# Ionic Monomer RCM

- Iodine atoms = 3
- Osmotic particles = 2
- Ratio 3:2
- High osmolar 1550 mOsm /kg water
- e.g. Diatrizoate = Hypaque 50 ( 300 mg Iodine/ mL ) Urografin, Gastrografin
- Metrizoate = Isopaque 370 ( 370 mg Iodine/ mL )
- Ionic high osmolar RCMs not used IV
- Retrogrades
- Cheap
- Side effects 10x non-ionic
- Also used to treat tape worms



# Ionic Dimer

- Iodine atoms per molecule = 6
- Osmotic particles per molecule = 2
- Ratio = 6:2
- Low osmolar = ~600 mOsm/kg water
- e.g. Ioxaglate = Hexabrix ( 320 mg Iodine/ mL)
- Toxicity - High protein binding  
Electrical charge

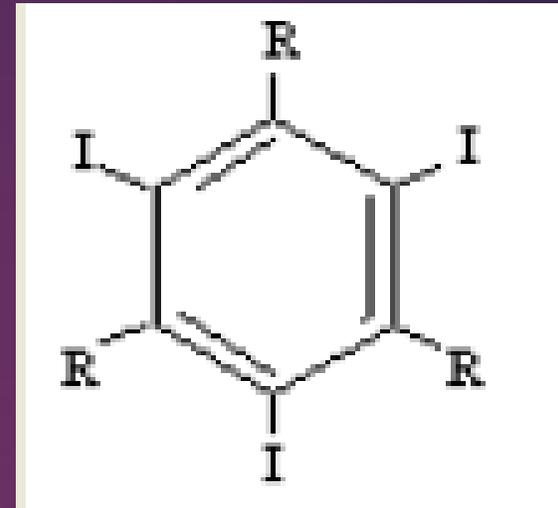


# Non-Ionic RCM

- ▶ Cation replaced by non-dissociating organic chain
- ▶ Tri-iodinated non-ionising compounds
- ▶ Fewer particles per iodine atom
- ▶ Lower osmolality
- ▶ Fewer side effects
- ▶ More expensive

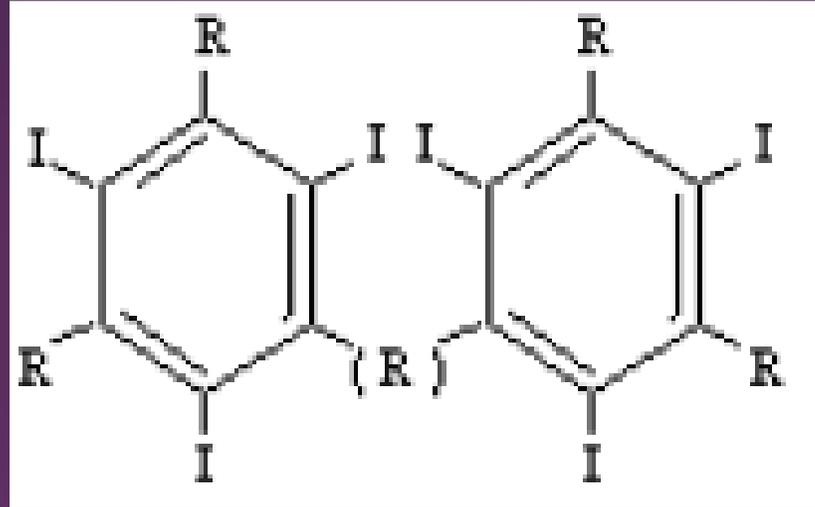
# Non-Ionic Monomer RCM

- ▶ Iodine atoms = 3
- ▶ Osmotic particles = 1
- ▶ Ratio 3:1
- ▶ Low osmolar
- ▶ e.g. Iohexol = Omnipaque

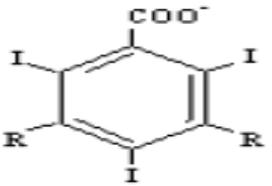
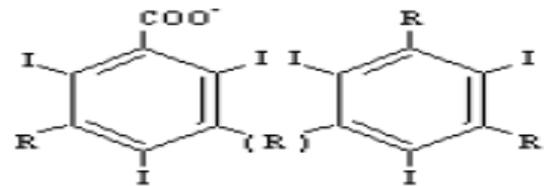
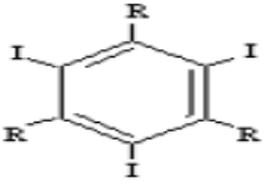
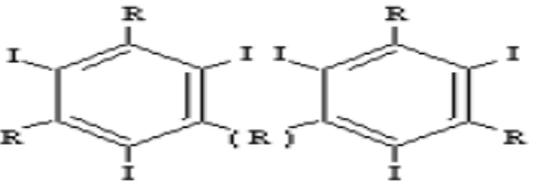


Concentration	Osmolality* Osm/kg H <sub>2</sub> O	Viscosity (mPa·s)	
		20°C	37°C
140 mg I/ml	0.29	2.3	1.5
180 mg I/ml	0.36	3.2	2.0
240 mg I/ml	0.51	5.6	3.3
300 mg I/ml	0.64	11.6	6.1
350 mg I/ml	0.78	23.3	10.6

# Non-Ionic Dimer RCM



- Iodine atoms = 6
- Osmotic particles = 1
- Ratio 6:1
- Iso-osmolar ~ 300 mOsm
- eg Iodixanol = Visipaque

Structure R = various organic chains	Class	Examples of Media	Iodine atoms to particles ratio	Approx. No. of times more osmolar than blood at 300 mg l/ml
1. Ionic monomer (Na <sup>+</sup> or MeGl <sup>+</sup> ) 	ionic monomer	iothalamate diatrizoate	3 : 2	5
2. Ionic dimer (Na <sup>+</sup> or MeGl <sup>+</sup> ) 	ionic dimer (low osmolar ionic)	ioxaglate	6 : 2 or 3 : 1	2
3. Non-ionic monomer 	non-ionic monomer (low osmolar non-ionic)	iopromide iopamidol iohexol iopentol ioversol	3 : 1	2
4. Non-ionic dimer 	non-ionic dimer	iotrolan iodixanol	6 : 1	iso-osmolar

# Points to Remember for RCM

- Radio-opacity
  - Iodine conc. of solution
  - No. of iodine atoms per molecule
  - Conc. of molecules in solution
- Osmolality
  - No. of particles
    - Ionic vs. Non-ionic
  - Low osmolality
    - Fewer side effects / reactions
    - ↓ pain of injection
  - High osmolality
    - Greater risk reactions
    - Causes osmotic diuresis

# Points to Remember for RCM

- ▶ Dimers
  - ▶ Large size → higher viscosity
  - ▶ Less lipophilic → more inert
- ▶ Strength = conc. of iodine mg/mL
  - ▶ Viscosity & osmolality related to conc. of media

Omnipaque Type	Strength mg/mL	Osmolality mOsm/kg H <sub>2</sub> O	Viscosity cP@37C	Use
140	140	290	1.5	Video UDS , Retrograde
240	240	510	3.3	Retrograde
300	300	640	6.1	IVU, CTU

# Methods of Administration of Contrast Material

## ▶ **INGESTED**

- ▶ (ORAL)

## ▶ **RETROGRADE**

- ▶ AGAINST NORMAL FLOW

## ▶ **INTRATHECAL**

- ▶ Spinal canal

## ▶ **PARENTERAL (IV, Intrathecal)**

- ▶ Injecting into bloodstream
- ▶ (anything other than oral)

# BLOOD WORK

LAB TESTS to check function of kidneys  
prior to injection of contrast

- ▶ WATCH THE UPPER LIMITS
- ▶ BUN = BLOOD UREA NITROGEN
- ▶ Merrills pg 214 range is 8 to 25  
pg 242 range is 10 - 20  
always check with RAD when level above **20**
- ▶ CREATININE levels range:  
▶ pg 214 (0.6 - 1.5) pg 242 (0.05 - 1.2)  
always check with RAD when level above **1.2**
- ▶ Indicates function of kidneys
- ▶ Diseases / dehydration / kidney failure

# 1. Patient's history per patient's chart

- Elevated creatinine?  
(Normal 0.6 to 1.5 mg/dl)
- Elevated BUN (blood, urea and nitrogen)  
(Normal 8 to 25 mg/100 ml)
- Glucophage (metformin)?  
(Taken for non-insulin dependent diabetes)

**To be withheld 48 hours prior to procedure**

SEE : PT CARE : Pharmacology 4th Ed Ch.20 (charts  
p293/p.299)

# Contrast media for SPECIAL PROCEDURES

Diagnostic agents  
that are injected into

- ▶ Circulatory System, Joint Spaces, Ducts
- ▶ Body orifices/organs: uterus, breast,  
salivary & lymph glands

# SPECIAL PROCEDURS CONTRAST MEDIA

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## ONLY Water sol.

- ▶ Arthrograms
- ▶ Myelograms
- ▶ Angio/Arterio grams
- ▶ Cardiac Cath
- ▶ Venograms

## Water or OIL

- ▶ Hysterosalpingogram
- ▶ Sialogram
- ▶ Lymphangiograms
  
- ▶ Lasts longer – may cause  
FAT EMBOLI

# SPECIAL “o-grams”

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- ▶ Venogram
- ▶ Arthrogram
- ▶ Sialogram
- ▶ Myelogram
- ▶ Arteriogram
- ▶ Angiogram
- ▶ Galactogram
- ▶ Hystersalpingogram..... etc

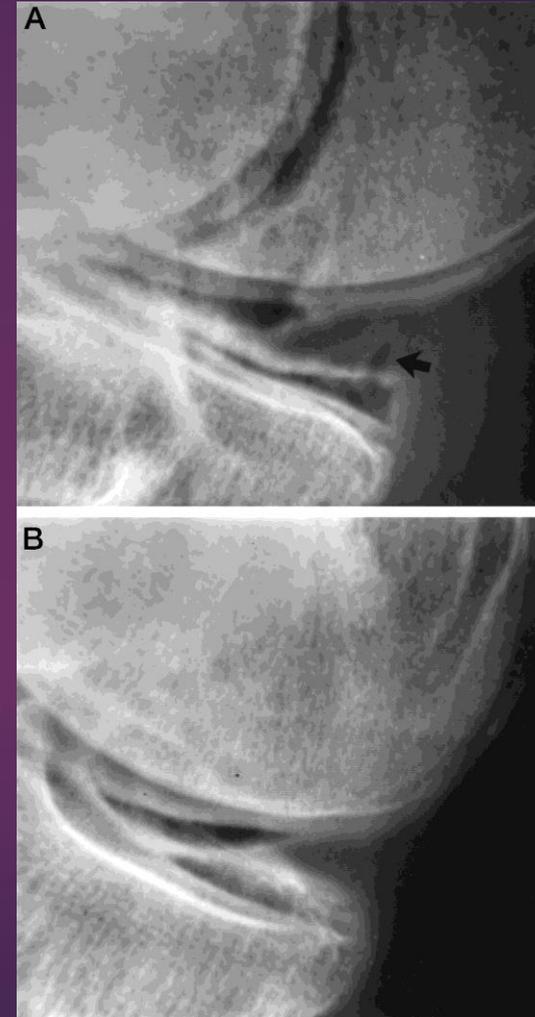


# CONTRAST INJECTION

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KNEE ARTHROGRAM



# SPECIAL PROCEDURS CONTRAST MEDIA

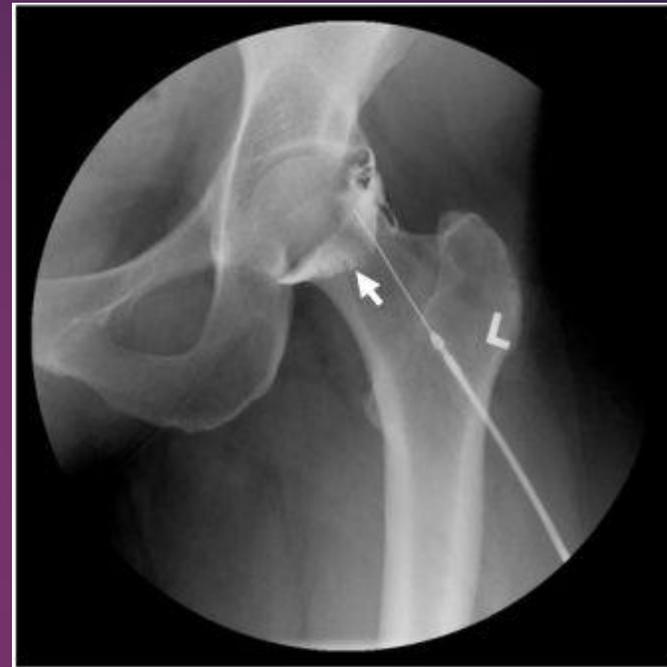
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## ARTHROGRAMS

- ▶ Injected into JOINT SPACES
- ▶ IODINE (positive contrast)
  - ▶ WATER soluble
  - ▶ (Ionic or Non-Ionic)
- ▶ AIR (negavitve contrast)

# DOUBLE CONTRAST WITH IODINE - HIP Arthrogram

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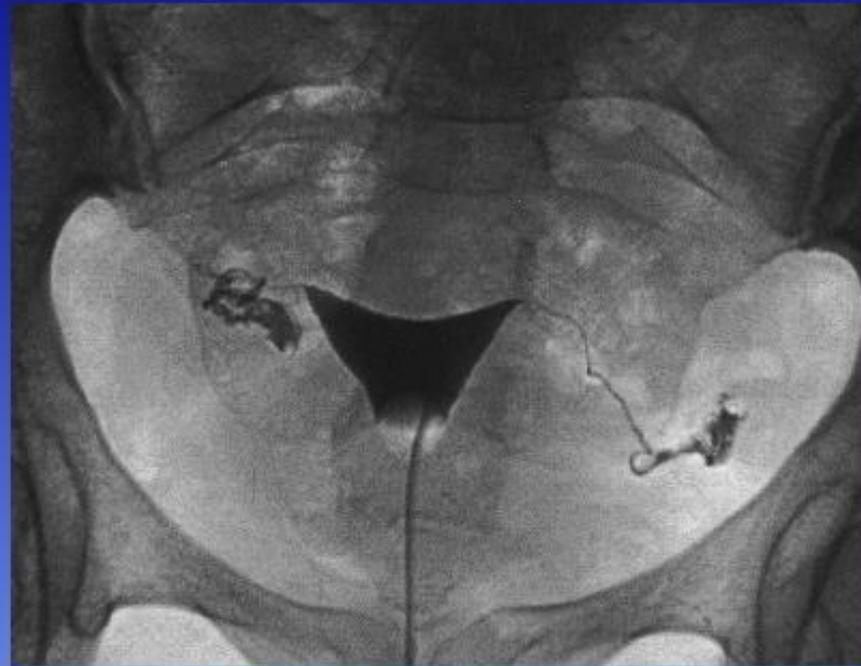
# To check fertility

can be oil or water based contrast

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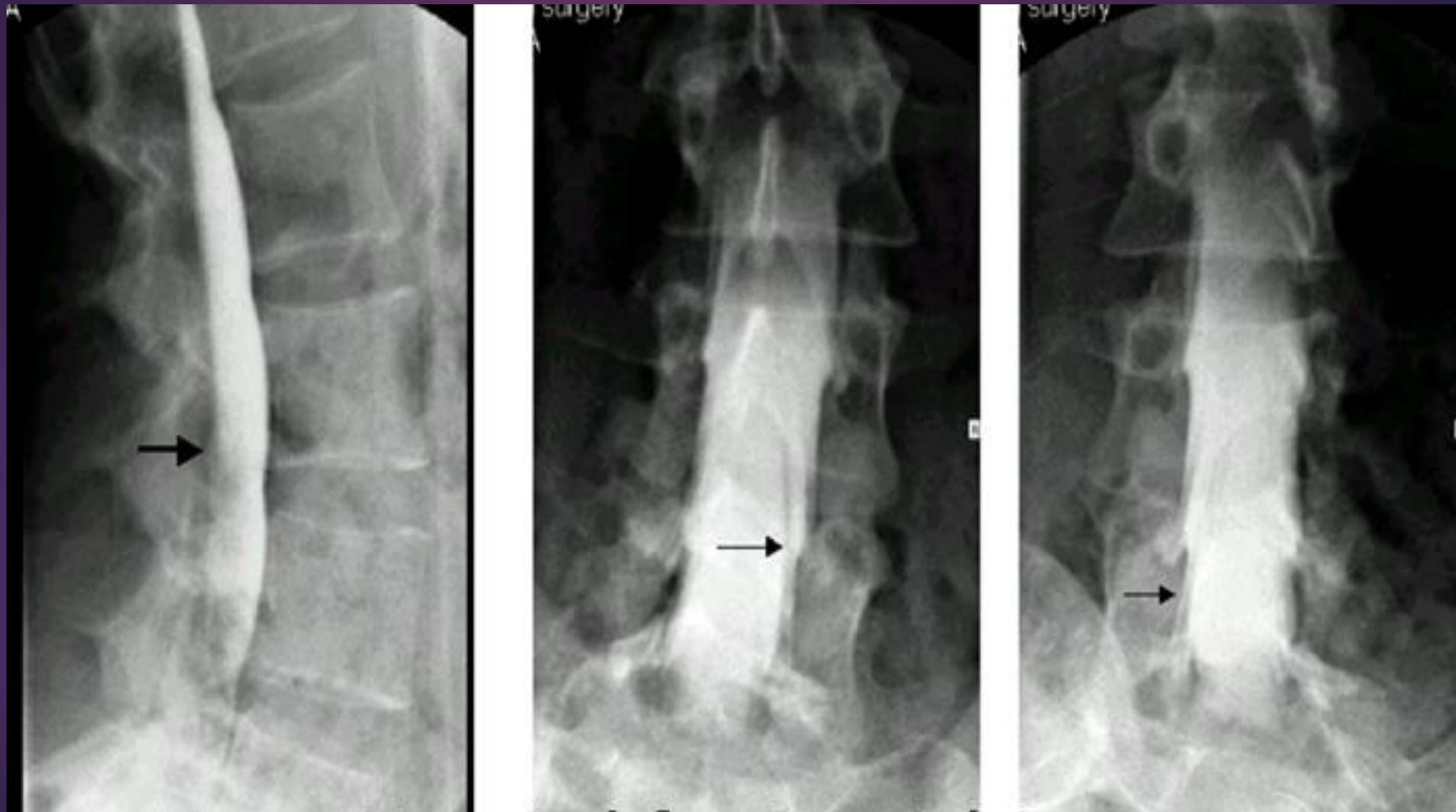
## Hysterosalpingography (HSG)

- Contrast media study demonstrating uterus and uterine (fallopian) tubes
- Anatomy



AP HSG radiograph

# Myelogram



# SPECIAL PROCEDURES CONTRAST MEDIA MYELOGRAMS

- ▶ Injected INTRATHECALLY  
(into the subarachnoid space)
- ▶ **Nonionic** water-soluble contrast
- ▶ (NO IONIC CONTRAST)

# Myelogram Contrast

- ▶ Pantopaque was introduced in 1944 as a oil contrast medium
- ▶ The first low-osmolar contrast medium to be produced was metrizamide (Amipaque)
- ▶ Oil never completely re-absorbed
- ▶ (Pre-employment L.sp)

# SIALOGRAM

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# SPECIAL PROCEDURS CONTRAST MEDIA

## SIALOGRAPHY

– injected into Salivary Ducts

▶ IODINE –

▶ WATER (ionic or nonionic)

▶ OR OIL BASED

▶ SINOGRAPHIN (OIL)

▶ RENOVUE (WATER)

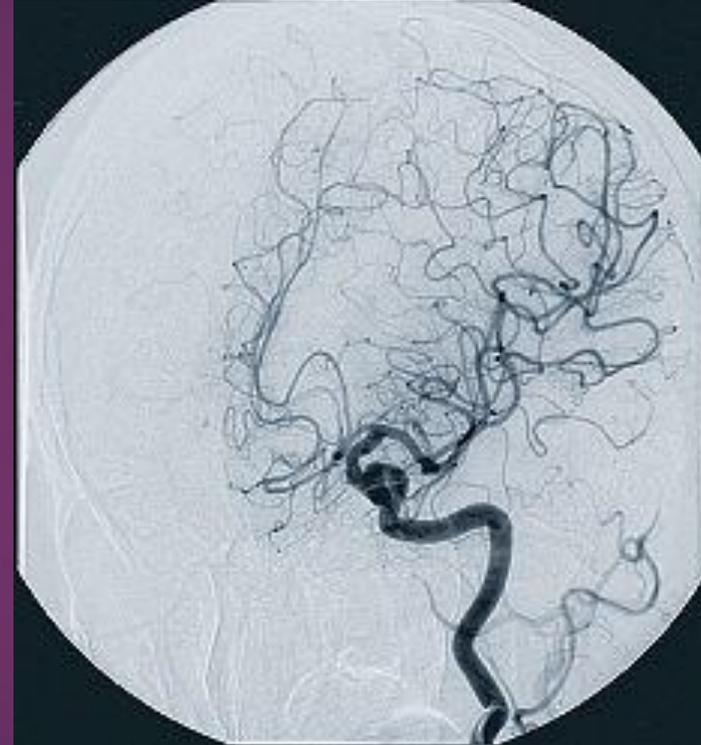
# Galactography - Breast Duct

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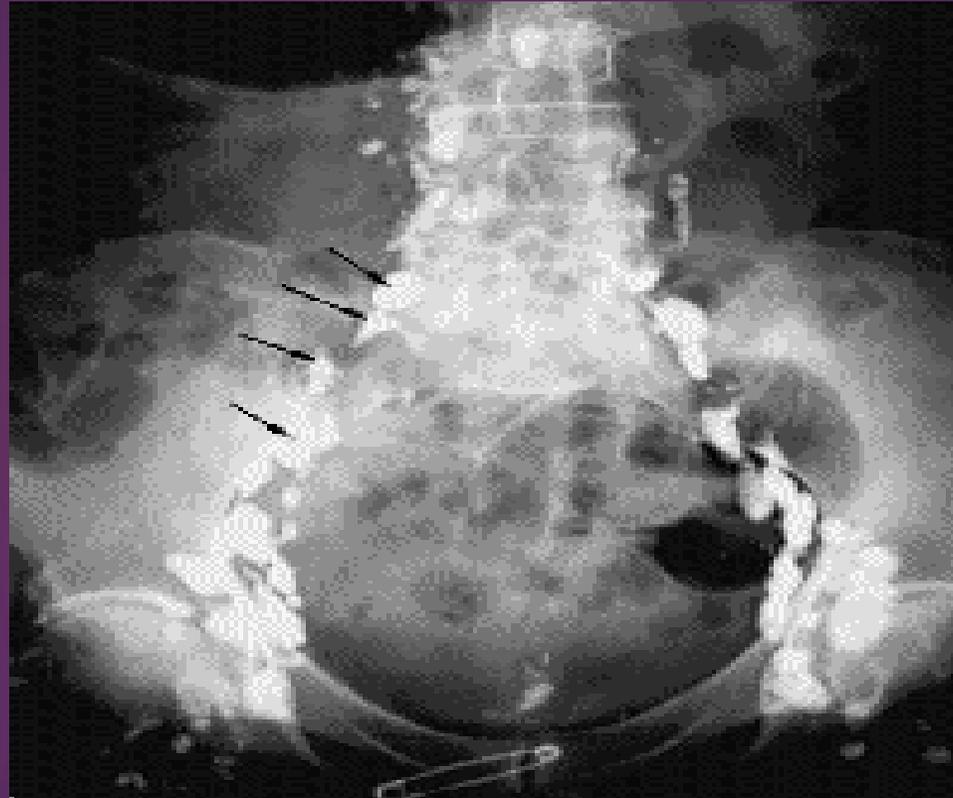
# Cerebral Angiogram

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# LYMPHANGIOGRAM

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# Dacryocystography

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**Figure 2.** Conventional dacryocystography. Normal.

Now largely replaced by CT

SPECIAL PROCEDURES  
ARE **INVASIVE**

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ALWAYS GET PATIENT'S  
HISTORY AND CONSENT  
BEFORE BEGINNING  
OR GIVING **ANY** CONTRAST  
MEDIA

ALWAYS TAKE  
A "SCOUT"  
BEFORE CONTRAST  
INJECTION

Why?



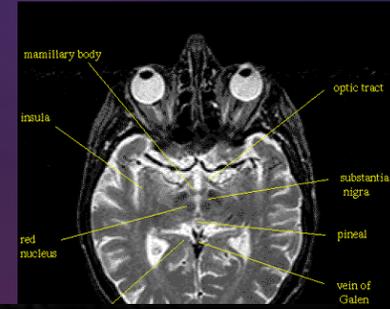
MR



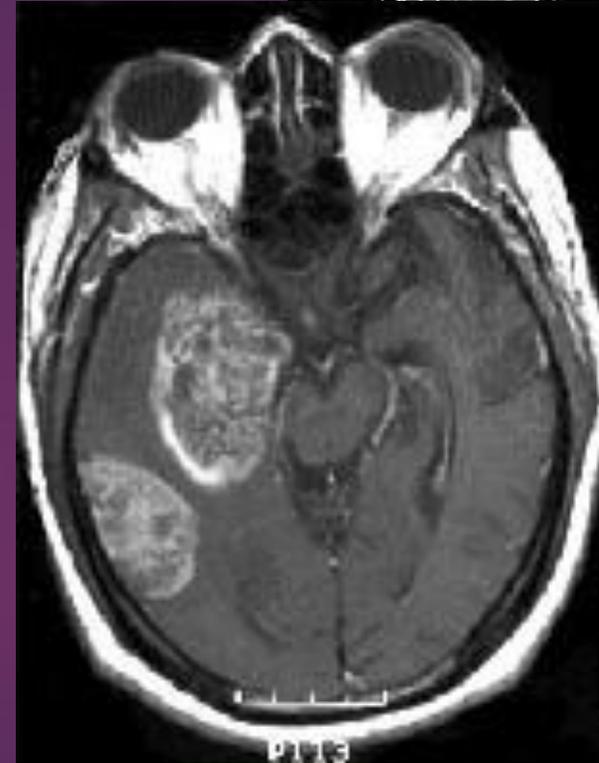
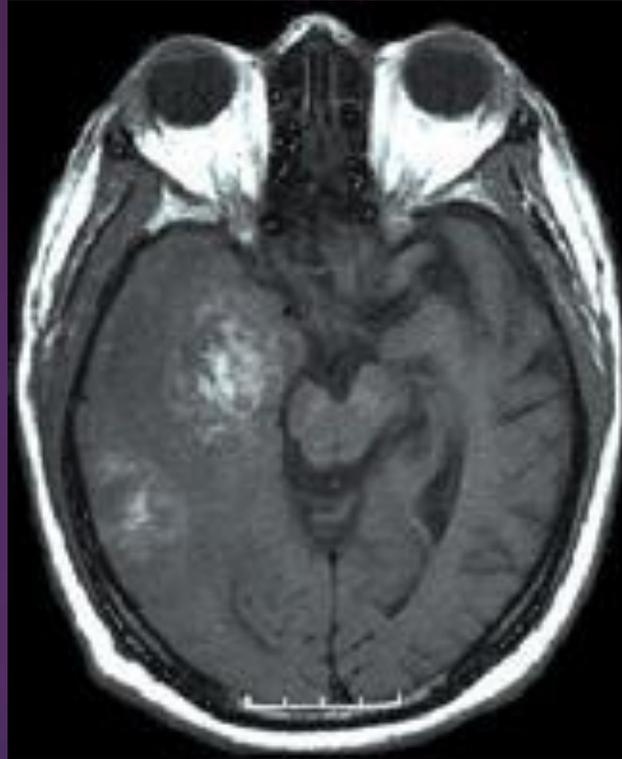
ast



# MRI with contrast



Without



**What is the name of the contrast used for MRI ?**



## Gadolinium (paramagnetic agent)

- ▶ T1 - This tissue-specific time constant for protons, is a measure of the time taken to realign with the external magnetic field.
- ▶ Gadolinium decreases T1 relaxation time.
- ▶ Enhanced tissues and fluids appear extremely bright on T1-weighted images.
- ▶ Provides high sensitivity for detection of vascular tissues (e.g. tumors).
- ▶ Dynamic Contrast Enhanced MRI more sensitive than T2W images for prostate cancer localization (50% vs 21%;  $p = 0.006$ ) and similarly specific (85% vs 81%;  $p = 0.593$ ).

# gadolinium

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- ▶ On its own gadolinium is toxic to the human body, but when coated in a special chelating agent, it is safe to use.
- ▶ When the chelating agent breaks down prematurely, or the kidneys are unable to excrete the gadolinium from the body, gadolinium poisoning can occur

# Gadolinium Side Effects

- ▶ **With impaired kidney function, gadolinium could lead to a serious and potentially fatal disorder called Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis. (NSF)**
- ▶ More common conditions associated with exposure includes
- ▶ impaired kidney function
- ▶ irritation of blood vessels
- ▶ facial swelling
- ▶ skin conditions, including rashes, itching and hives

# Complications

- ▶ Minimal nephrotoxicity
- ▶ Allergy rare
- ▶ Nephrogenic systemic fibrosis
  - ▶ Severe delayed fibrotic reaction of tissues (from day of exposure up to 2-3 months)
  - ▶ Can be progressive & fatal in around 5%
  - ▶ Starts with red, itchy painful swelling on limbs progressing to muscle weakness and contractures.
  - ▶ Risk with GFR <60 (Highest if <30)
  - ▶ Not reported GRF >60

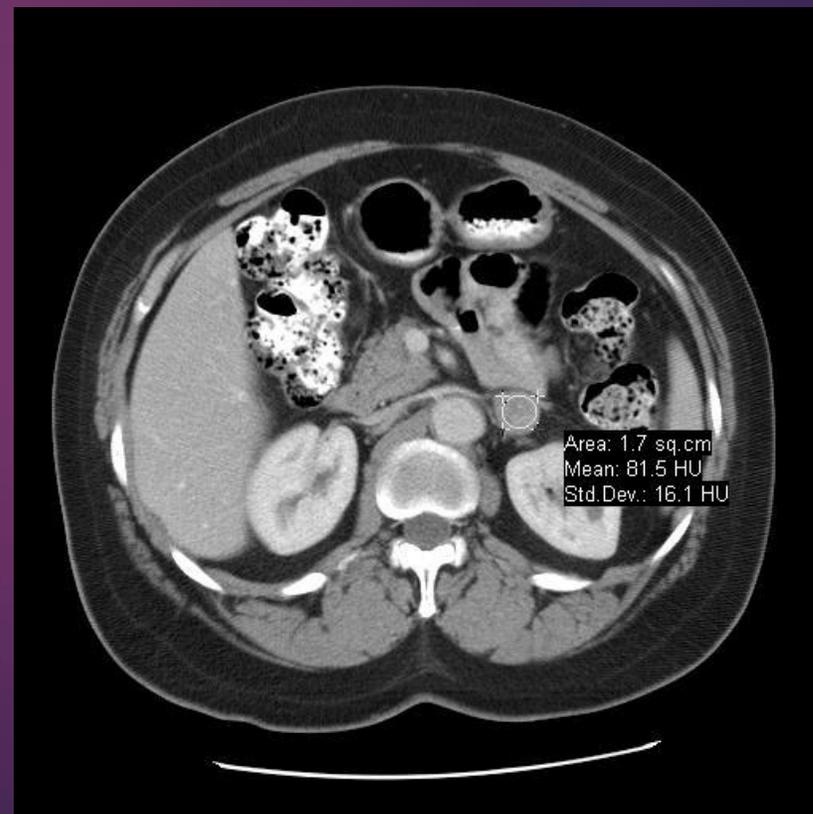
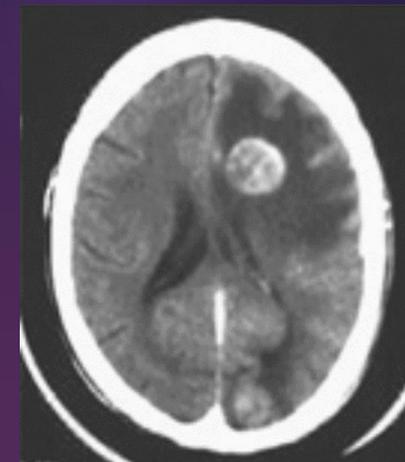
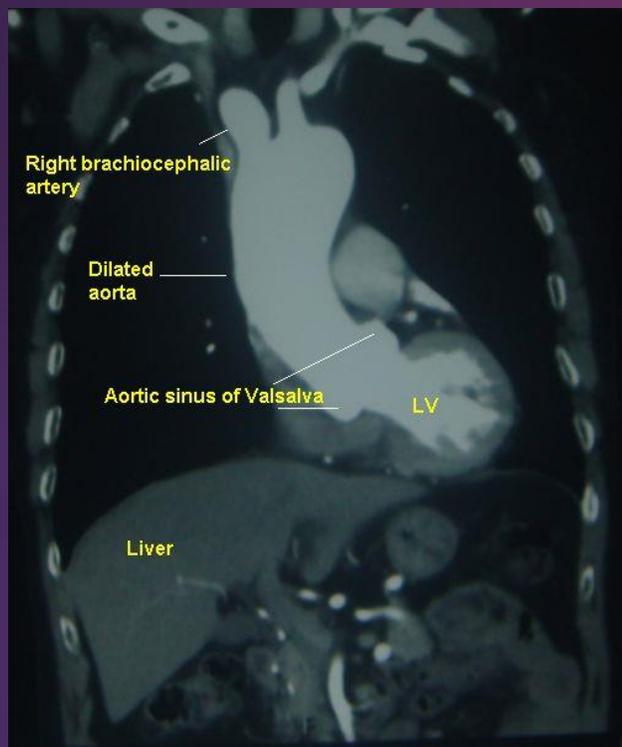
# CT Contrast

- ▶ Oral/Rectum
    - ▶ – Barium or Iodine
  - ▶ IV: Iodine
- 
- ▶ Usually less dilute
  - ▶ than for Radiology



# CT w contrast

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# CT Contrast

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## ▶ **CT Scan Contrast Indications**

- ▶ History of tumor, cancer, or surgery
- ▶ Looking for infection, inflammation
- ▶ Evaluating blood vessels
- ▶ Investigate a finding in a scan done without contrast

## ▶ **CT Scan Contrast Side Effects**

- ▶ Mild to life-threatening allergic reaction
- ▶ Flushing/redness and hives
- ▶ Shortness of breath
- ▶ Nausea, vomiting
- ▶ Blood clots
- ▶ Dizziness

# Ultrasound CM & CEUS

- ▶ Alters echo amplitude in ultrasonography
  - ▶ Changes in absorption, reflection & refraction
- ▶ Encapsulated microbubbles <10 $\mu$ m diameter
- ▶ Confined to vascular space
- ▶ Increase echo strength up to 300 fold
- ▶ Can use targeting ligands to bind to endothelial receptors (integrins & growth factor receptors) enabling microbubble complex to accumulate in area of interest.
- ▶ Can derive measures of tumor blood flow and blood volume by employing high mechanical index ultrasonography to destroy micro bubbles in a given region and then determining the rate at which they reappear; a process termed replenishment kinetics
- ▶ Increased sensitivity of TRUSS guided prostate biopsy (38-54% vs. 65-93%)
- ▶ Eg: Levovist, Sonovist
- ▶ Complications very rare

# Lymphotropic Superparamagnetic Nanoparticles

Particles are taken up by macrophages of the reticuloendothelial system and accumulate in lymph nodes.

Passive, cell-specific targeting of the iron oxide nanoparticles to lymph nodes.

Differential cellular content of benign versus malignantly infiltrated nodes make this method suitable for cancer staging.

Lymphotropic nanoparticle enhanced MRI, differences in benign versus malignant infiltration of lymph nodes can be visualised, which adds accuracy to standard MRI beyond criteria based solely upon the size and shape of lymph nodes.



# TOXICITY OF CONTRAST MEDIA AND ADVERSE REACTIONS

# Toxicity of media

- Major life threatening contrast reaction is rare
  - Non-ionic agents
    - Severe 0.04%
    - Very serious reactions 0.004%
    - Deaths 0.001%

Katayama *et al*, Radiology 1990

# What contributes to discomfort, side effects, reactions:

## ▶ VISCOSITY – (thick, sticky)

thicker – harder to inject, more heat and vessel irritation (higher = greater viscosity)

Warming contrast will help

## ▶ TOXICITY - (higher = greater viscosity)

## ▶ MISCIBILITY - easily mixes with blood

## ▶ OSMOLALITY - is a measure of the total number of particles in solution.

# Iodinated CONTRAST AGENTS

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## Adverse Reactions

- ▶ Osmolarities higher than body fluids
- ▶ Viscous
- ▶ Greater chance for contrast reactions
- ▶ Anaphylatic shock is the most severe
- ▶ Injection of ionic contrast media may lead to **hypovolemia**.

# Hypovolemia

- ▶ basically means low blood volume
- ▶ Symptoms of hypovolemia may include
  - ▶ cold hands and feet, light headedness, infrequent urination, increased heart rate, and weakness.
  - ▶ Low blood volume can result in multiple organ failure, kidney damage, brain damage, and death
- ▶ **hypovolemia** differs from dehydration (which is excessive loss of body water)
- ▶ **hypovolemia** can lead to dehydration

# Toxicity of media

- Classification of adverse reactions
  - Idiosyncratic anaphylactoid reactions
    - Not dose related
  - Non-idiosyncratic chemotoxic reactions
    - Dose dependent
    - Molecular toxicity
    - Physiological characteristics
    - Mechanisms
      - Chemotoxic
      - Hyperosmolar

# Idiosyncratic - Not dose related

<b>Mild</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Severe</b>
Mild urticaria	Extensive urticaria	Cardiopulmonary collapse
	Angio-oedema	Pulmonary oedema
	Bronchospasm	Bronchospasm
	Laryngospasm	Laryngospasm
	Hypotension	Hypotension

# Non-idiosyncratic - Dose dependent

Minor	Intermediate	Severe
Tachy/brady	Oliguria/anuria	VT/VF
	Azotaemia	MI
	Myocardial ischaemia	
	Arrhythmia	
	Bronchospasm	

# Iodinated Contrast Media: Adverse Reaction Summary, 1985–1999

- ▶ Mild and moderate adverse events more common with ionic contrast material than with non-ionic
- ▶ Severe reactions are seen equally with ionic and non-ionic contrast material but differ in type:
  - ▶ Ionic – allergic-like
  - ▶ Non - ionic cario-pulmonary decompensation

# Previous reaction to CM

- Exact nature of ADR
- Agent used
- Re-examine need for RCM study
  - Risk/benefit ratio
  - Alternative - non-contrast, USS, MRI
- If RCM necessary
  - Use different RCM
  - LOCM / iso-osmolar CM
- Prophylactic steroids - no conclusive evidence

# Other known allergies - Atopy and CM

- Increased risk – 2 x
- Confirm previous type of allergic reaction
- Re-examine need for RCM study
  - Risk/benefit ratio
  - Alternative - non-contrast, USS, MRI
- If RCM necessary
  - Use different RCM
  - LOCM/ iso-osmolar CM

# Asthma and CM

- ↑ Risk severe ADR
- Confirm diagnosis
- Determine if well controlled
- Defer if exacerbation or poor control
- Rx as per previous reaction

# Metformin therapy

- Excreted exclusively via kidneys
- Can cause/exacerbate lactic acidosis
- Normal Cr range of eGFR – don't stop
- If out of range consult stopping for 48 hrs with referring clinic

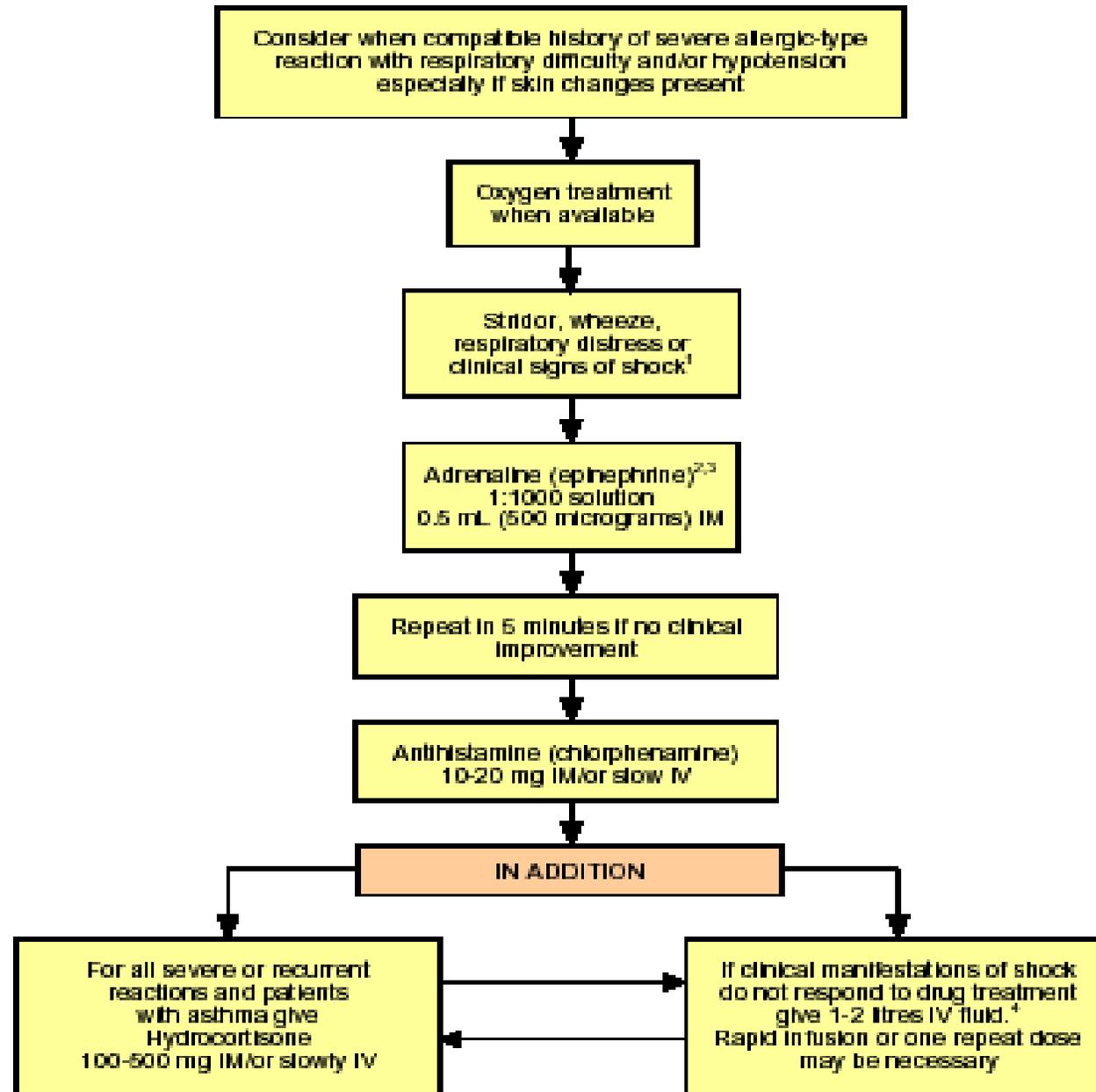
**Standards for intravascular contrast agent administration to adult patients.**

# Risk factors for adverse intravenous contrast media reactions

- Use a non-ionic low or iso-osmolar agent
- Maintain close medical supervision
- Leave the cannula in place and observe the patient for 30 minutes
- Be ready to treat promptly any adverse reaction and ensure that emergency drugs and equipment are available

**Standards for intravascular contrast agent administration to adult patients. RCR 2010**

Figure 1 Anaphylactic Reactions: Treatment Algorithm for Adults by First Medical Responder



## Mild Reactions (Self Limiting)

- Symptoms
  - Nausea and vomiting
  - Hives (urticaria)
  - Itching
  - Sneezing
  - Extravasation
  - Vasovagal response



# Moderate Reactions (Requires medication)

1. Excessive urticaria
2. Tachycardia
3. Giant hives
4. Excessive vomiting

## Severe Reactions ! (Requires Immediate Treatment)

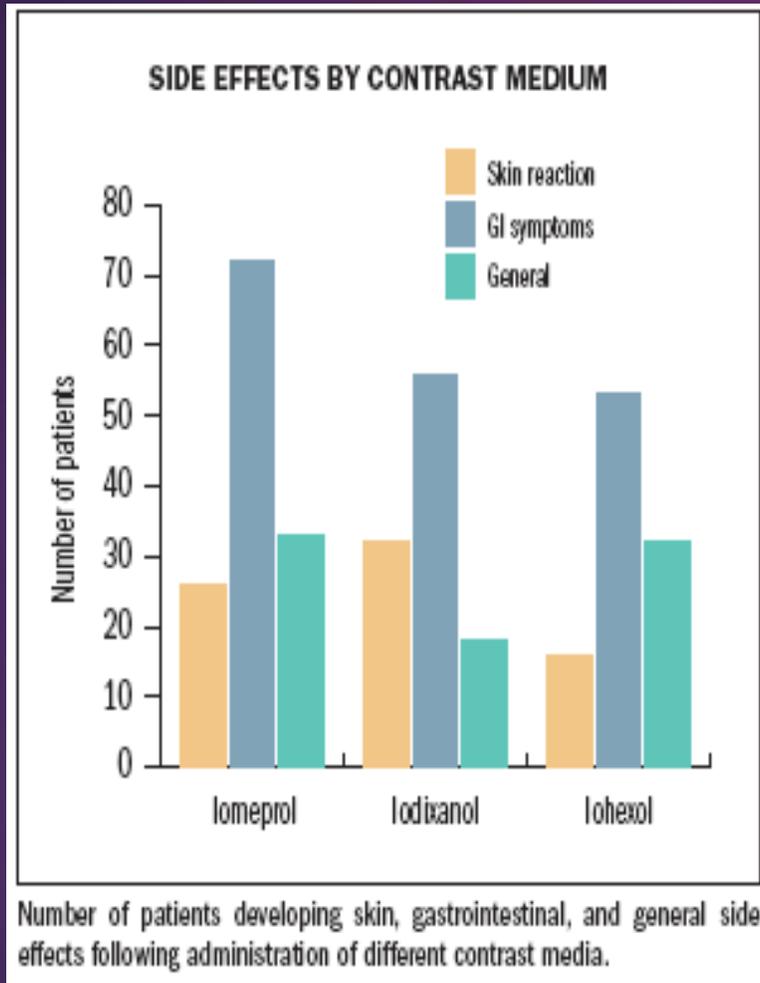
- Very low B/P
- Cardiac or respiratory arrest
- Loss of consciousness
- Convulsions
- Laryngeal edema
- Cyanosis
- Difficulty in breathing
- Profound shock

# Reaction classification

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- ▶ **Immediate reactions** were defined as those occurring within the department (within one hour)
- ▶ **Delayed** as those occurring between the time the patients left the department and up to seven days later

# Delayed Side Effects to Contrast



- ▶ Skin effects included itching, rash, and hives.
- ▶ Nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea were the gastrointestinal side effects
- ▶ General side effects included headache, dizziness, and fever.
- ▶ Infants and patients older than 60 years are at increased risk of developing a side effect.

# GOOD PATIENT HISTORY

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- ▶ Kidney problems
- ▶ Diabetes
- ▶ Heart conditions
- ▶ Allergies
- ▶ Asthma
- ▶ Previous reaction
- ▶ Current medications
- ▶ Beta Blockers
- ▶ Antihypertensive medications
- ▶ VITAL SIGNS

# CONTRAST REACTIONS

- ▶ **General**
- ▶ > 10 million diagnostic procedures per year
- ▶ Conventional ionic contrast reactions - 10%
- ▶ 1 in 1000 severe

# Contraindications for Contrast

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- ▶ Renal Failure (Check BUN & Creatinine)
  - ▶ Elevated levels could cause renal shutdown
- ▶ Anuria (no urine production)
- ▶ Asthma (possible allergies)
- ▶ Hx of Contrast Allergy / Reactions
- ▶ Diabetes - get a hx of medications taken
  - ▶ glucophage must be stopped 48 hrs before contrast injection
- ▶ Multiple Myeloma

# MORE Risk Factors for Contrast Reaction

- ▶ Older patient age
- ▶ Allergic Rhinitis, medication or Food Allergy
- ▶ Cardiovascular disease

# CONTRAINDICATIONS

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- ▶ Pregnancy (risk of fetal Thyroid toxicity)
- ▶ + Radiation concerns
- ▶ Allergic Reaction
- ▶ Pathologic Conditions
- ▶ Infection

# Allergic to Iodine

- ▶ General Rule:
- ▶ No Iodine Contrast will be given
  - ▶ Pre – medication is available
- ▶ May or may not react if previous iodine given



# Aseptic Technique for injection

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betadine scrub

Contains iodine



## Side Effect vs. Reaction

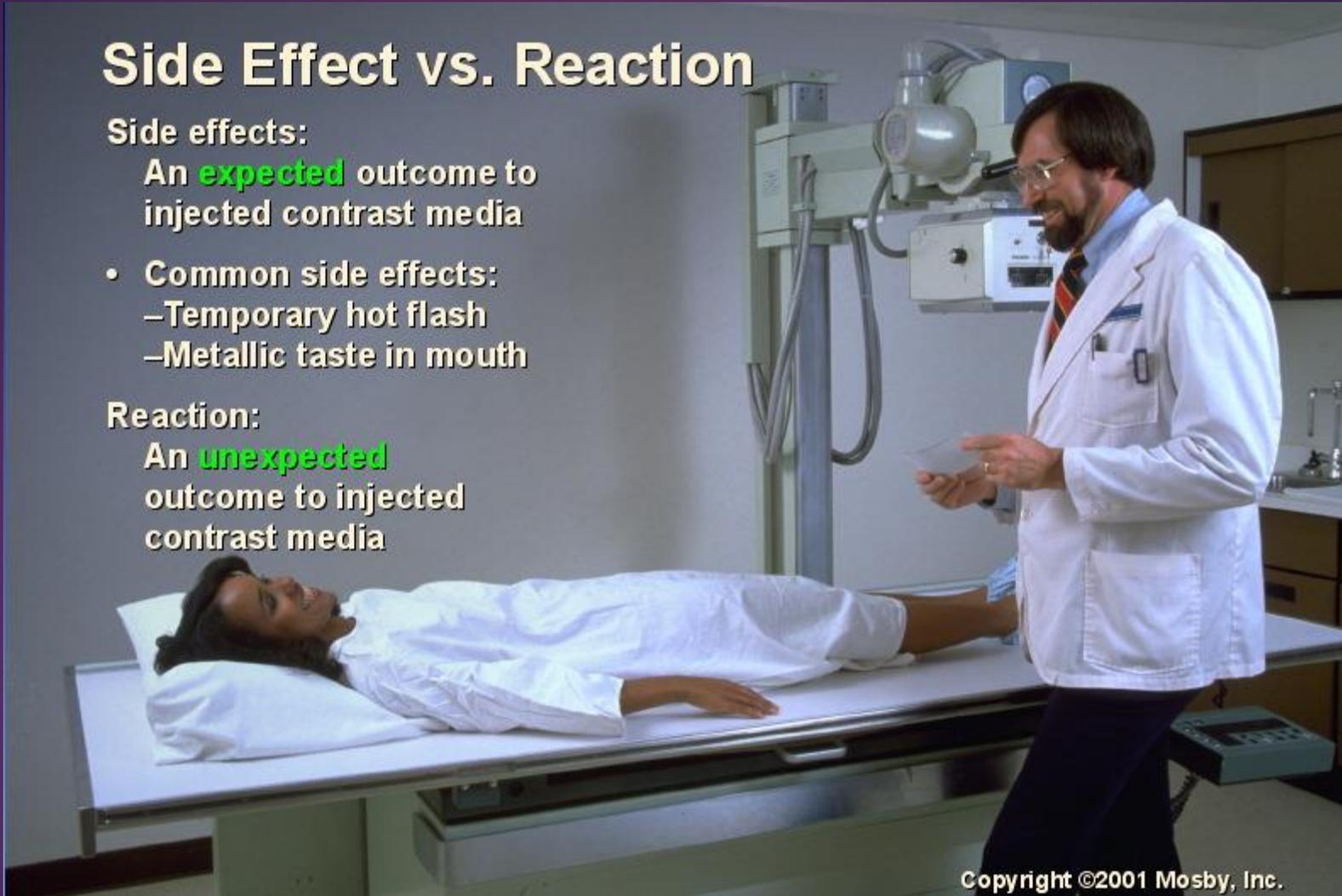
### Side effects:

An **expected** outcome to injected contrast media

- Common side effects:
  - Temporary hot flash
  - Metallic taste in mouth

### Reaction:

An **unexpected** outcome to injected contrast media



# REACTIONS & Treatment

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**USUALLY\*\* WITHIN FIRST 5 MINUTES**

- ▶ Nausea & Vomiting & Urticaria
- ▶ Hypotension (bradycardia)
- ▶ Hypotension (tachycardia)
- ▶ Bronchospasm
- ▶ Anaphylactoid
- ▶ Seizures
  
- ▶ Extravasation

## Categories of Adverse Reactions

# MILD

- ▶ nausea, vomiting
- ▶ Urticaria (hives) rash – itching
- ▶ Flush face – feeling of warmth
- ▶ Headache, Chills, Anxiety
- ▶ Diaphoresis

Treatment – does not usually get worse

Watch patient and reassure

(cool cloth on forehead, emesis basin)

# MODERATE

- ▶ Hypotension (bradycardia)
- ▶ Hypertension (tachycardia)
- ▶ Dyspnea
- ▶ Bronchospasms /wheezing
- ▶ Laryngeal Edema

## TREATMENT:

Needs immediate treatment –GET RN/RAD

Needs Meds\* – (Keep IV line in)  
could lead to severe reactions

# SEVERE

- ▶ Laryngeal edema
- ▶ Convulsions
- ▶ Profound hypotension
- ▶ Clinically manifested arrhythmias
- ▶ Unresponsiveness
- ▶ Cardiopulmonary Arrest

PROMPT TREATMENT !

# Rx for REACTIONS

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have ready on Emergency cart or Crash Cart

- ▶ UTICARIA (HIVES) –
  - Benadryl (diphenhydramine)
  - Vistaril (hydroxyzine)
  - Tagament or Zantac
  
- ▶ Facial/Laryngeal Edema/Bronchospasms
  - Epinephrine , Oxygen

# Contrast Reactions/MYTHS

- ▶ not caused by iodine
  - ▶ Ionic vs non ionic - binding elements
- ▶ not related to shellfish
- ▶ not true allergy (no drug-antibody)
- ▶ mechanism remains unknown

# Anaphylactoid (idiosyncratic)

- ▶ unpredictable
- ▶ dose independent
- ▶ prevalence 1-2% (0.04 - 0.22% severe)
- ▶ fatal 1 in 75,000

# RENAL TOXICITY

- ▶ (increased serum creatinine  $> 0.5$  mg%)
- ▶ 2-7%
- ▶ 5 – 10 x increase with pre-existing renal insufficiency
- ▶ direct relationship between serum creatinine and likelihood nephrotoxicity
- ▶ Hydrate 100 ml/hr Normal saline 4 hrs prior to procedure, continue for 24 hours

# GLUCOPHAGE

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- ▶ Pt is DIABETIC = oral diabetic agent
- ▶ MUST STOP \_\_ DAYS BEFORE EXAM
- ▶ withhold drug for 48 hrs after contrast administration
- ▶ patients with renal insufficiency may develop lactic acidosis
- ▶ The signs of lactic acidosis are deep and rapid breathing, vomiting, and abdominal pain

# Pre-Medications

- ▶ Steroids (Prednisone)
- ▶ Benadryl (diphenhydramine)
- ▶ Epinephrine

# EXTRAVASATION

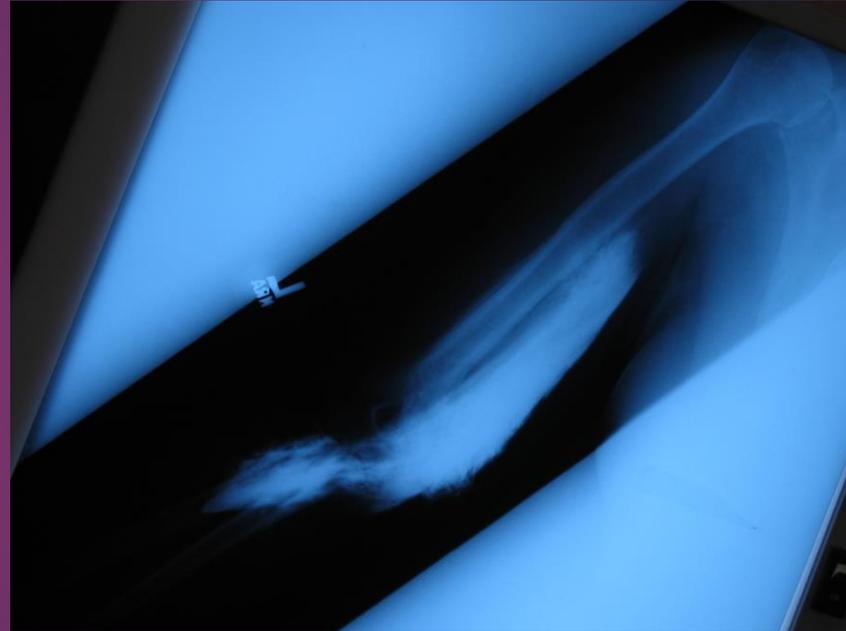
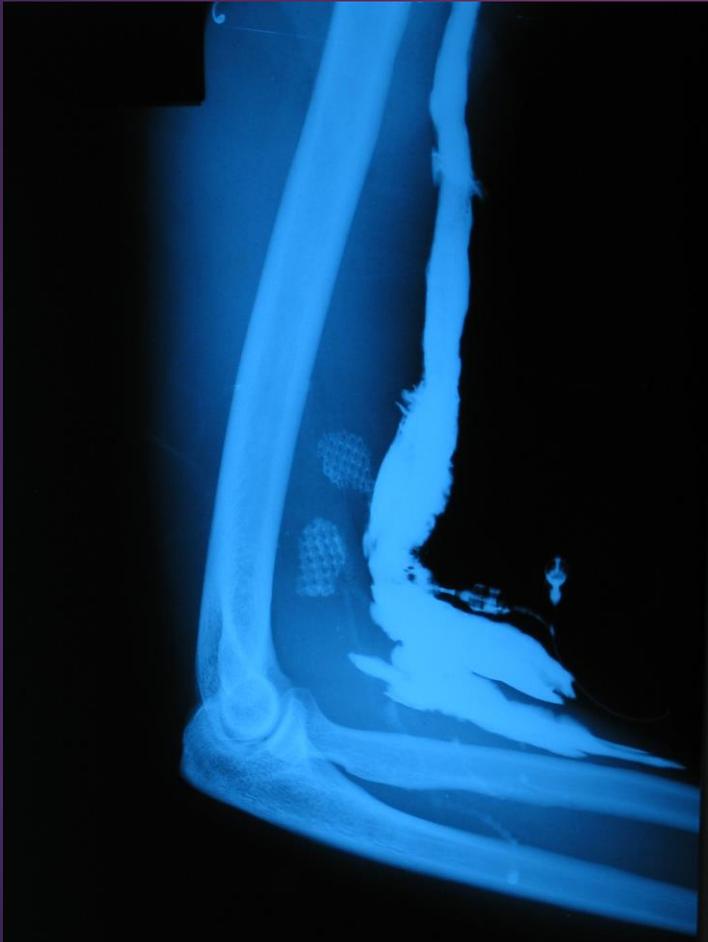
- ▶ Contrast material has seeped outside of vessel
- ▶ Local redness and swelling
- ▶ Apply WARM Compress 1<sup>st</sup> 24 hours
- ▶ Cool compress for swelling

# EXTRAVASATION

- ▶ The act of injecting a drug/contrast into an area **other than the vessel (soft tissue)**
- ▶ RTA BOOK: Pharmacology Chapter
- ▶ Defines as: Discharge or escape of fluid from a vessel into the surrounding tissue that can cause localized vasoconstriction, resulting in sloughing of tissue and tissue necrosis if not reversed with an antidote.

# Extravasation of Contrast into soft tissue of arm

95





A



B

# Contrast leaking from bladder

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# Summary -

- ▶ **Delayed side effects persist in IV iodinated contrast media**
- ▶ *History of asthma and allergy predisposes patients to increased incidence of adverse reactions*
- ▶ Intravenous iodinated contrast agents are generally safe.
- ▶ Though the frequency of side effects has fallen significantly since the introduction of nonionic, monomeric contrast agents, however, side effects remain an important issue.
- ▶ Late adverse reactions were first recognized in the mid-1980s

# Summary of Contrast Reactions

- ▶ **Anaphylactoid** reactions may present with
- ▶ **mild symptoms** such as skin rash, itching, nasal discharge, nausea, and vomiting
- ▶ **moderate symptoms** like facial or laryngeal edema, bronchospasm, dyspnea, tachycardia, and bradycardia
- ▶ **severe symptoms** such as life-threatening arrhythmias, hypotension, bronchospasm, laryngeal edema, pulmonary edema, seizure, syncope, and death

# Summary of Contrast Reactions

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- ▶ **Nonanaphylactoid reactions** are due to the ability of the contrast media to upset the body homeostasis, especially the blood circulation.
- ▶ **Increasing iodine concentration** increases the risk of these reactions, which is also affected by the volume and route of administration of contrast.
- ▶ **Larger volumes** or intra-arterial administration are more likely to produce a reaction.
- ▶ The cardiovascular, respiratory, urinary, gastrointestinal, and nervous systems are most commonly affected by physiologic changes produced by contrast media.
- ▶ The symptoms of nonanaphylactoid reactions are warmth, metallic taste, nausea, vomiting, bradycardia, hypotension, vasovagal reactions, neuropathy, and delayed reactions



**Thank You**